



Billing Code 6560-50-P

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**[EPA-HQ-OW-2015-0613; FRL – 9946-06-OEI]**

### **Information Collection Request Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Title I of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act**

**AGENCY:** Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

**ACTIONS:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Environmental Protection Agency has submitted an information collection request (ICR), “Title I of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act” (EPA ICR No. 0824.06, OMB Control No. 2040-0008) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*). This is a proposed reinstatement of the ICR (formerly known as “Ocean Dumping Regulations - reports and record keeping to obtain a permit, request designation, and report on permitted dumping activities”), which is currently expired. Public comments were previously requested via the **Federal Register** (81 FR 484) on January 06, 2016 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments. A fuller description of the ICR is given below, including its estimated burden and cost to the public. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**DATES:** Additional comments may be submitted on or before **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, referencing Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2015-0613, online using [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (our preferred method), by email to [ow-docket@epa.gov](mailto:ow-docket@epa.gov), or by mail to: EPA Docket Center, Environmental Protection Agency, Mail Code 28221T, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW., Washington, DC 20460.

EPA's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes profanity, threats, information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** David Redford, Oceans and Coastal Protection Division, Environmental Protection Agency, 4504T 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460; telephone 202-566-1288; email address: [redford.david@epa.gov](mailto:redford.david@epa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Supporting documents which explain in detail the information that the EPA will be collecting are available in the public docket for this ICR. The docket can be viewed online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or in person at the EPA Docket Center, WJC West, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. The telephone number for the Docket Center is 202-566-1744. For additional information about EPA's public docket, visit [www.epa.gov/dockets](http://www.epa.gov/dockets).

*Abstract:* Ocean dumping - the transportation of any material for the purpose of dumping in ocean waters - cannot occur unless a permit is issued under the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA). EPA is responsible for issuing ocean dumping permits for all materials except dredged material. EPA collects or sponsors the collection of information for the purposes of permit issuance, reporting of emergency dumping to safety of life at sea, compliance

with permit requirements, including specifically general permits for burial at sea and for transportation and disposal of vessels.

*Form numbers:* None.

*Respondents/affected entities:* Respondents/affected entities may include any private person or entity, or State, local or foreign governments.

*Respondent's obligation to respond:* Required to obtain or retain a benefit, specifically permit authorization and/or compliance with permits required under MPRSA sections 102 and 104, 33 U.S.C. 1402 & 1404, and implementing regulations at 40 CFR parts 220-229.

*Estimated number of respondents:* 2,767 respondents per year.

*Frequency of response:* The frequency of response varies for application and reporting requirements for different permits. Other than the general permit for transportation and disposal of vessels, response is required once for each permit application, whether a single notification to EPA or a permit application. Depending on the type of MPRSA permit, a permit application would be required prior to expiration if the permittee seeks re-issuance: general permit (once every seven years); special permit (once every three years), and research permit (once every 18 months).

*Total estimated burden:* 3,207 hours per year. Burden is defined at 5 CFR 1320.3(b).

*Total estimated cost:* \$349,157, which includes \$195,857 for capital or operation & maintenance costs.

*Changes in Estimates:* EPA estimates an increase in the number of respondents from 21 to 2,767 with a corresponding decrease in total estimated burden from 27,004 to 3,207 hours as compared to the most recently approved ICR, which expired January 31, 1992. The estimated increase in

the number of respondents is due to the significant increase in the number of entities using the burial at sea and vessel general permits, which were not widely used at the time of the earlier ICR. The estimated decrease in the total estimated burden is due to the implementation of the Ocean Dumping Ban Act of 1988, which led to the cessation of the dumping of sewage sludge and industrial wastes. The respondent burden for these special permits was high due the potentially significant impacts from dumping these wastes, and the data required from the respondents to ensure permit compliance.

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